

Express Mail Label No. EL209599882US  
U.S. National Phase Entry of PCT/EP00/09882  
"Interface Module for a Local Data Network"  
Filed: 18 January 2002  
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**Version with markings to show changes made**

In the specification

Kindly replace the last paragraph on page 18 continuing onto page 19 as follows:

A first alloy system has the composition  $\text{Co}_a(\text{Fe}_{1-c}\text{Mn}_c)_b\text{Ni}_d\text{M}_e\text{Si}_x\text{B}_y\text{C}_z$ , with M indicating one or more elements from the group Nb, Mo, Ta, Cr, W, Ge, and/or P and  $a+b+d+e+x+y+z = 100$ , with

Co:  $a = 40 - 82 \text{ at\%}$ , preferably  $55 < a < 72 \text{ at\%}$ ,

Fe+Mn:  $b = 3 - 10 \text{ at\%}$ ,

Mn/Fe:  $c = 0 - 1$ , preferably  $[x]c < 0.5$ ,

Ni:  $d = 0 - 30 \text{ at\%}$ , preferably  $d < 20 \text{ at\%}$ ,

M:  $e = 0 - 5 \text{ at\%}$ , preferably  $e < 3 \text{ at\%}$ ,

Si:  $x = 0 - 18 \text{ at\%}$ , preferably  $x > 1 \text{ at\%}$ ,

B:  $y = 8 - 26 \text{ at\%}$ , preferably  $8 - 20 \text{ at\%}$ ,

C:  $z = 0 - 3 \text{ at\%}$ ,

$15 < e+x+y+z < 30$ , preferably  $20 < e+x+y+z < 30$ .

In the claims

1. (Amended) An [I]interface module for local data networks having an inductive component [(7)] used as a transformer for coupling interface circuits to a data line used to connect computers, with the inductive component having a magnetic core [(9)] and multiple windings applied to the core, [characterized in that] wherein the inductive component [(7)]

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used as a transformer has a magnetic core [(9)] made of an amorphous or nanocrystalline alloy with a permeability  $\mu > 15,000$  and the number of turns of the windings is between 5 and 25.

2. (Amended) The [I] interface module according to claim 1, [characterized in that] wherein the amorphous or nanocrystalline alloy has a permeability  $\mu > 30,000$ .

3. (Amended) The [I] interface module according to claim 1 [or 2], [characterized in that] wherein the alloy has the composition  $\text{Co}_a(\text{Fe}_{1-c}\text{Mn})_b\text{Ni}_d\text{M}_e\text{Si}_x\text{B}_y\text{C}_z$ , with M indicating one or more elements from the group Nb, Mo, Ta, Cr, W, Ge, and/or P and  $a+b+d+e+x+y+z = 100$ , with

Co       $a = 40 - 82 \text{ at\%}$

Fe+Mn    $b = 3 - 10 \text{ at\%}$

Mn/Fe    $c = 0 - 1$

Ni       $d = 0 - 30 \text{ at\%}$

M       $e = 0 - 5 \text{ at\%}$

Si       $x = 0 - 17 \text{ at\%}$

B       $y = 8 - 26 \text{ at\%}$

C       $z = 0 - 3 \text{ at\%}$

and  $15 \text{ at\%} < e+x+y+z < 30 \text{ at\%}$ .

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4. (Amended) The [I] interface module according to claim 3, [characterized in that]  
wherein the following relationships apply:

Co  $a = 55 - 72 \text{ at\%}$

Mn/Fe  $c = 0 - 0.5$

Ni  $d = 0 - 20 \text{ at\%}$

M  $e = 0 - 3 \text{ at\%}$

B  $y = 8 - 20 \text{ at\%}$

Si  $x = 1 - 18 \text{ at\%}$

and  $20 \text{ at\%} < e+x+y+z < 30 \text{ at\%}$ .

5. (Amended) The [I] interface module according to claim 1 [or 2], [characterized in  
that] wherein the alloy has the composition  $\text{Fe}_x\text{Cu}_y\text{M}_z\text{Si}_v\text{B}_w$ , with M indicating an element  
from the group Nb, W, Ta, Zr, Hf, Ti, Mo, or a combination of these and  $x + y + z + v + w =$   
100%, with

Fe  $x = 100\% - y - z - v - w$

Cu  $y = 0.5 - 2 \text{ at\%}$

M  $z = 1 - 6 \text{ at\%}$

Si  $v = 6.5 - 18 \text{ at\%}$

B  $w = 5 - 14 \text{ at\%}$

with  $v + w > 18 \text{ at\%}$ .

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6. (Amended) The [I] interface module according to claim 5, [characterized in that]  
wherein the following relationships apply:

Cu  $y = 1 \text{ at\%}$

M  $z = 2 - 4 \text{ at\%}$

Si  $v = 14 - 17 \text{ at\%},$

with  $v + w = 20 \text{ to } 24 \text{ at\%}.$

7. (Amended) The [I] interface module according to claim 1 [or 2], [characterized in  
that] wherein the alloy has the composition  $\text{Fe}_x\text{Zr}_y\text{Nb}_z\text{B}_v\text{Cu}_w$ , with  $x + y + z + v + w = 100$   
at%, with

Fe  $x = 100 \text{ at\%} - y - z - v - w$

Zr  $y = 2 - 5 \text{ at\%}$

Nb  $z = 2 - 5 \text{ at\%}$

B  $v = 5 - 9 \text{ at\%}$

Cu  $w = 0.5 - 1.5 \text{ at\%}$

with  $y + z > 5 \text{ at\%}$  and  $y + z + v > 11 \text{ at\%}.$

8. (Amended) The [I] interface module according to claim 7, [characterized in that]  
wherein the following relationships apply:

Fe  $x = 83 - 86 \text{ at\%}$

Zr  $y = 3 - 4 \text{ at\%}$

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Nb  $z = 3 - 4 \text{ at\%}$

Cu  $w = 1 \text{ at\%}$

with  $y + z > 7 \text{ at\%}$  and  $y + z + v > 12 \text{ to } 16 \text{ at\%}$ .

9. (Amended) The [I] interface module according to claim 1 [or 2], [characterized in that] wherein the alloy has the composition  $\text{Fe}_x\text{M}_y\text{B}_z\text{Cu}_w$ , with M indicating an element from the group Zr, Hf, Nb and  $x + y + z + w = 100 \text{ at\%}$ , with

Fe  $x = 100 \text{ at\%} - y - z - w$

M  $y = 6 - 8 \text{ at\%}$

B  $z = 3 - 9 \text{ at\%}$

Cu  $w = 0 - 1.5 \text{ at\%}$ .

10. (Amended) The [I] interface module according to claim 9, [characterized in that] wherein the following relationships apply:

Fe  $x = 83 - 91 \text{ at\%}$

M  $y = 7 \text{ at\%}$ .

11. (Amended) The [I] interface module according to claim 1 [or 2], [characterized in that] wherein the alloy has the composition  $(\text{Fe}_{0.98}\text{Co}_{0.02})_{90-x}\text{Zr}_7\text{B}_{2+x}\text{Cu}_1$ , with  $x = 0 - 3 \text{ at\%}$ , with the residual alloy component Co able to be replaced by Ni with appropriate equalization.

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12. (Amended)      The [I] interface module according to claim 11, [characterized in that]  
wherein  $x = 0$ .

13. (New)      The interface module according to claim 2, wherein the alloy has the  
composition  $\text{Co}_a(\text{Fe}_{1-c}\text{Mn}_c)_b\text{Ni}_d\text{M}_e\text{Si}_x\text{B}_y\text{C}_z$ , with M indicating one or more elements from the  
group Nb, Mo, Ta, Cr, W, Ge, and/or P and  $a+b+d+e+x+y+z = 100$ , with

Co             $a = 40 - 82 \text{ at\%}$

Fe+Mn        $b = 3 - 10 \text{ at\%}$

Mn/Fe        $c = 0 - 1$

Ni             $d = 0 - 30 \text{ at\%}$

M             $e = 0 - 5 \text{ at\%}$

Si             $x = 0 - 17 \text{ at\%}$

B             $y = 8 - 26 \text{ at\%}$

C             $z = 0 - 3 \text{ at\%}$

and  $15 \text{ at\%} < e+x+y+z < 30 \text{ at\%}$ .

14. (New)      The interface module according to claim 2, wherein the alloy has the  
composition  $\text{Fe}_x\text{Cu}_y\text{M}_z\text{Si}_v\text{B}_w$ , with M indicating an element from the group Nb, W, Ta, Zr, Hf,  
Ti, Mo, or a combination of these and  $x + y + z + v + w = 100\%$ , with

Fe             $x = 100\% - y - z - v - w$

Cu             $y = 0.5 - 2 \text{ at\%}$

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M  $z = 1 - 6 \text{ at\%}$

Si  $v = 6.5 - 18 \text{ at\%}$

B  $w = 5 - 14 \text{ at\%}$

with  $v + w > 18 \text{ at\%}$ .

15. (New) The interface module according to claim 2, wherein the alloy has the composition  $\text{Fe}_x\text{Zr}_y\text{Nb}_z\text{B}_v\text{Cu}_w$ , with  $x + y + z + v + w = 100 \text{ at\%}$ , with

Fe  $x = 100 \text{ at\%} - y - z - v - w$

Zr  $y = 2 - 5 \text{ at\%}$

Nb  $z = 2 - 5 \text{ at\%}$

B  $v = 5 - 9 \text{ at\%}$

Cu  $w = 0.5 - 1.5 \text{ at\%}$

with  $y + z > 5 \text{ at\%}$  and  $y + z + v > 11 \text{ at\%}$ .

16. (New) The interface module according to claim 2, wherein the alloy has the composition  $\text{Fe}_x\text{M}_y\text{B}_z\text{Cu}_w$ , with M indicating an element from the group Zr, Hf, Nb and  $x + y + z + w = 100 \text{ at\%}$ , with

Fe  $x = 100 \text{ at\%} - y - z - w$

M  $y = 6 - 8 \text{ at\%}$

B  $z = 3 - 9 \text{ at\%}$

Cu  $w = 0 - 1.5 \text{ at\%}$ .

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17. (New) The interface module according to claim 2, wherein the alloy has the composition  $(\text{Fe}_{0.98}\text{Co}_{0.02})_{90-x}\text{Zr}_7\text{B}_{2+x}\text{Cu}_1$ , with  $x = 0 - 3$  at%, with the residual alloy component Co able to be replaced by Ni with appropriate equalization.

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